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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. AUSTIN, OF GREENVILLE, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE MODE OF MAKING OR PREPARING DOOR-PLATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 113, dated January 31, 1837.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. AUSTIN, of Greenville, in the county of Augusta and State of Virginia, have invented an Improvement in the Mode of Making or Preparing Door-Plates, which I denominate "Transparent Door-Plates;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

I take a thick piece of polished plate-glass of the size required for the letters or words which are intended to be inscribed thereon, cutting it into such form as shall adapt it to a metallic or other frame into which it is to be put when in place on the door. One side of this plate of glass I render rough by grinding or otherwise, and I attach letters of brass or other metal, by means of cement or of pins, or in any other convenient way, either on the outside or to the ground side, in such a manner as that they shall exhibit the desired name or device on the opposite side; or I mark and form such letters thereon by painting, gilding, or in any other permanent way, with the same intention. When this plate is affixed to a door a hole is first cut through said door, to admit

the frame which is to be secured therein. The glass so prepared forms an agreeable and ornamental ground in the daytime, and at night the light from an entry-lamp or other source within the passage or hall will shine through that part of the glass not covered by the letters, and they will be distinctly seen from without.

The opening through the door should be chamfered on the inside, so that its edges may not throw a shade on the glass.

I do not claim the use of door-plates formed of transparent plates of glass lettered on the back and contained within metallic frames as of my invention; but

What I do claim is—

An improvement on such plates by cutting a hole through the door and affixing them in such manner as that a light within the passage or hall shall at night shine through them, for the purposes set forth.

WILLIAM C. AUSTIN.

Witnesses:

SAML. BLACKWOOD,  
HENRY W. BURCH.